

For Immediate Release
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Governor Riley Receives Approval for Federal Disaster Declaration due to Hurricane Ivan

Clanton, Alabama – Governor Bob Riley today announced he has received approval from President Bush for a federal disaster declaration in response to Hurricane Ivan. This approval by the President means that hurricane victims and local governments in the hardest hit areas will be eligible to receive federal funding and assistance to recover from the storm.

“I appreciate the quick response from the White House. This declaration will speed help to Alabamians affected by the hurricane and will help ease the burden on local governments as they respond to this powerful storm,” Gov. Riley said. “Our State and local emergency management teams will continue to conduct damage assessments to determine if additional counties need to be added to this disaster declaration.”

The Federal Coordinating Officer and staff from the Federal Emergency Management Agency are in the State Emergency Operations Center to coordinate the flow of federal assistance. Governor Riley has appointed Alabama Emergency Management Agency Director Bruce Baughman as the State Coordinating Officer to work with federal officials in coordinate recovery measures in the declared disaster area.

The following are counties approved for individual assistance to storm victims and infrastructure assistance local governments: Baldwin, Mobile, Washington, Escambia, Clarke, Monroe, Conecuh, Butler, Crenshaw, Covington, Coffee, and Geneva.

The following are counties declared for infrastructure assistance to local governments only: Choctaw, Marengo, Wilcox, Lowndes, Montgomery, Sumter, Greene, Hale, Perry, Dallas, Autauga, Elmore, Pickens, Tuscaloosa, Bibb, Chilton, Coosa, Jefferson, Shelby, and Talladega.

Storm victims can call the FEMA tele-registration line to apply for assistance at **1-800-621-3362** and for the speech and hearing impaired at **1-800-462-7585**.